

14. Position Summary

The position is located in the Feed and Fertilizer Units of DATCP's Bureau of Laboratory Services (BLS). This full-time position functions as a professional chemist under close supervision of the Chemistry Supervisor analyzing feed and fertilizer samples for guarantee constituents.

This employee is further responsible for the analysis of other section samples (e.g. food, dairy, acute pesticide/fertilizer spills, groundwater, etc.) as necessary or assigned. Sample work assignments or areas of emphasis may be adjusted by management staff to meet the operational needs of the laboratory, including maximizing work efficiency during the year and/or cross-training of staff to support other sample areas.

All work is performed in accordance with agency and laboratory protocols, policies, quality assurance (including analysis of proficiency or competency samples), and safety standards (e.g. ensure waste/residue is disposed of properly, wearing safety glasses). This position will support Bureau plans and initiatives and may be required to give expert testimony in court.

15. Goals and Worker Activities

65% GOAL A: Performance of Analysis of Sample within the Feed and Fertilizer Units

- A1 Analyze routine and non-routine samples for primary nutrients, secondary nutrients, and micronutrients in support of DATCP administrative code relating to fertilizer and related products following procedures outlined in the laboratory SOPs
- A2 Analyze routine and non-routine feed samples for natural components and feed additives in support of DATCP administrative code relating to commercial feed following procedures outlined in the laboratory SOPs.
- A3 Prepare reagents and standards used in support of analyses performed.
- A4 Assist with instrument operation.
- A5 As needed or as a back-up, assist in the preparation of laboratory samples for feed or fertilizer analysis (e.g. sieving, grinding, blending, splitting, representative sampling, etc.)

20% GOAL B Performance of Routine Analysis of Sample within the Chemistry Section

- B1 Provide analytical support for the analysis of soil, vegetation, food and other matrices for pesticide and/or industrial chemical residues.
- B2 Provide analytical support to the Groundwater Unit in the analysis of samples for pesticide residues and/or industrial toxins
- B3 Analyze food and dairy samples for standard of identity in support of the Food Chemistry Unit

- B4 Support other Bureau objectives as they relate to department and division goals and the mission of the Bureau.
- B5 Perform other duties as assigned.

10% GOAL C: Responsible for Participating in Bureau Initiative

- C1 Provide support for Bureau Quality Assurance Program by following appropriate policies and procedures
- C2 Support Bureau Safety Program by following appropriate policies and procedures (e.g. ensure waste/residue is disposed of appropriately, wearing safety glasses, etc.)
- C3 Provide input to management staff regarding procedures and/or policies
- C4 Help implement test methodologies as directed
- C5 Assist in test validation, informing the Unit Leader and/or Supervisor of the results, inconsistencies, trends, etc.

5% GOAL D: Maintenance of individual posture as a professional chemist

- D1 Maintain technical expertise by reviewing scientific articles and attending seminars and training sessions pertinent to the position.
- D2 Write comprehensive, legible reports of work performed and results obtained.
- D3 Appear as an expert witness in court to support litigation resulting from data obtained by sample analysis.

KNOWLEDGES AND ABILITIES

Working knowledge of the principles, practices and techniques of analytical chemistry.

Knowledge of the theory, operation, maintenance and calibration of Gas Chromatographs, Liquid Chromatography, Inductively Coupled Plasma-Mass Spectrometry, Mass Spectrometry, and UV-Vis Spectrophotometers.

Some knowledge of the principles and operation of data processing microcomputers

Some knowledge food chemistry

Some knowledge of animal feed drugs

Working knowledge of laboratory safety practices.

Some knowledge of Quality Assurance Principles and how to analyze quality assurance samples.

Some knowledge of statistical parameters, techniques, and procedures and their relationship to laboratory analyses.

Proficient in Microsoft Word and Excel

Effective record keeping skills.

Some knowledge of team building techniques.

Special Requirements: 1) Ability to lift up to 50 lbs.; 2) Ability to work with a range of chemicals, reagents, live cultures, etc. - some of which may necessitate use of protective equipment.